

**SENATE RESOLUTION 683—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 19 THROUGH OCTOBER 25, 2008, AS “NATIONAL CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING PREVENTION WEEK”**

Mr. REED (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BOND, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. KERRY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. PRYOR, and Mr. LAUTENBERG) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 683

Whereas lead poisoning is one of the leading environmental health hazards facing children in the United States;

Whereas approximately 240,000 children in the United States under the age of 6 currently have harmful levels of lead in their blood;

Whereas lead poisoning may cause serious, long-term harm to children, including reduced intelligence and attention span, behavior problems, learning disabilities, and impaired growth;

Whereas children from low-income families are significantly more likely to be poisoned by lead than are children from high-income families;

Whereas children may be poisoned by lead in water, soil, housing, or consumable products;

Whereas children most often are poisoned in their homes through exposure to lead particles when lead-based paint deteriorates or is disturbed during home renovation and repainting; and

Whereas lead poisoning crosses all barriers of race, income, and geography: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of October 19 through October 25, 2008, as “National Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Week”; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States to observe National Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Week with appropriate programs and activities.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 684—CALLING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY TO ADDRESS THE CRISIS IN DARFUR, SUDAN**

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. KERRY, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. BROWBACK, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. SPETER, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. DODD, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. ROBERTS, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. COLEMAN, and Mr. VOINOVICH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 684

Whereas more than 300,000 people have died and approximately 2,500,000 have been displaced in Darfur since 2003, according to estimates by the United Nations;

Whereas Congress unanimously declared on July 22, 2004, that the atrocities in Darfur were genocide;

Whereas, on September 9, 2004, Secretary of State Colin Powell and on June 1, 2005, President George W. Bush described the crisis in Darfur as genocide;

Whereas the United States has led the world in financial contributions to humanitarian aid and peacekeeping operations in Darfur;

Whereas, on July 31, 2007, the United Nations Security Council voted to deploy an historic United Nations-African Union (UNAMID) peacekeeping force to stem the violence in Darfur and create conditions for peace talks;

Whereas only approximately 10,000 of the authorized force of 26,000 peacekeepers and police have deployed to Darfur, delayed by Sudanese obstruction as well as by a failure of the international community to commit sufficient resources and to overcome logistical obstacles; and

Whereas more than four years have passed since Congress declared the conflict in Darfur to be genocide and conditions on the ground in Darfur continue to worsen: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) urges the President, the United Nations Secretary-General, the African Union, and other key members of the international community to pursue a comprehensive solution to the Darfur crisis by—

(A) supporting efforts to launch a just and inclusive peace process;

(B) ensuring the full and effective deployment of the UNAMID mission;

(C) ensuring the free and unfettered flow of humanitarian aid;

(D) promoting economic and political development programs;

(E) supporting full implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement of 2005; and

(F) promoting justice and accountability;

(2) condemns the Government of Sudan for its continued obstruction of the deployment of United Nations-African Union peacekeepers and equipment;

(3) condemns the ongoing acts of violence in and obstruction of aid to Darfur committed by all parties; and

(4) calls upon the Government of Sudan and armed parties in the region to declare and respect an immediate cessation of hostilities, abide by the United Nations embargo on the importation of arms, cease predation and attacks upon humanitarian organizations, and participate in international efforts to negotiate a lasting political settlement for the region.

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 102—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT ENSURING THE AVAILABILITY OF ADEQUATE HOUSING IS AN ESSENTIAL COMPONENT OF AN EFFECTIVE STRATEGY FOR THE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF HIV AND THE CARE OF INDIVIDUALS WITH HIV**

Mrs. CLINTON submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

S. CON. RES. 102

Whereas adequate and secure housing is recognized as a human right in Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on December 10, 1948;

Whereas strong and consistent research findings show that the socioeconomic status of individuals and groups is a key determinant of health;

Whereas the link between poverty and an increased risk of contracting HIV and other poor health outcomes is well established;

Whereas research findings demonstrate that there is a direct relationship between

inadequate housing and a greater risk of HIV infection, poor health outcomes, and early death;

Whereas poor living conditions, including overcrowding and homelessness, undermine safety, privacy, and efforts to promote self-respect, human dignity, and responsible sexual behavior;

Whereas, according to the National AIDS Housing Coalition, individuals who are homeless or unstably housed are 2 to 6 times more likely to use hard drugs, share needles, or exchange sex than individuals with stable housing, as the lack of stable housing directly impacts the ability of individuals living in poverty to reduce HIV risk behaviors;

Whereas, despite the evidence indicating that adequate housing has a direct positive effect on the prevention and treatment of HIV and health outcomes, the lack of resources dedicated to providing adequate housing has been largely ignored in policy discussions at the international level; and

Whereas the United Nations, in the 2006 Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS, embraced the goal of universal access to comprehensive prevention programs and treatment, care, and support for individuals with HIV by 2010: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that ensuring the availability of adequate housing is an essential component of an effective strategy for the prevention and treatment of HIV and the care of individuals with HIV.

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 103—RECOGNIZING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MINORITY AIDS INITIATIVE**

Mrs. CLINTON submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. CON. RES. 103

Whereas the Minority AIDS Initiative was established on October 28, 1998, under the leadership of the Congressional Black Caucus, during the chairmanship of Representative Maxine Waters, to target funds for the awareness, prevention, testing, and treatment of human immunodeficiency virus and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) toward racial and ethnic minority communities and toward community-based organizations and health care providers serving these communities;

Whereas HIV/AIDS is a devastating epidemic that continues to grow in communities throughout the United States;

Whereas there are more than 1,000,000 people living with HIV/AIDS in the United States today;

Whereas there are more than 14,000 AIDS-related deaths every year in the United States;

Whereas approximately 1 in 4 of the people living with HIV/AIDS in the United States do not know they are infected;

Whereas all racial and ethnic minorities are disproportionately impacted by HIV/AIDS;

Whereas African-Americans account for about ½ of new AIDS cases, although approximately 13 percent of the population as a whole is Black, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that African-Americans accounted for 45 percent of new HIV infections in 2006;

Whereas Hispanic Americans account for 19 percent of new AIDS cases, although only 15